Church Life

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THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE.

Dear Friends:—We have been deprived of the earnest work of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs on the Raymond field, but the regular services of the chapel will be carried forward without interruption. Dr. Kelly will be on hand as usual every Sunday afternoon to superintend the Sunday school, and the preaching on Sunday evening, and prayer meeting on Thursday evening will continue as before. The able and helpful sermons of Mr. E. L. Kelley, have been greatly appreciated and last Sunday evening a good congregation greeted Dr. Eubank. Times of crisis are times of opportunity, and now is our chance to show our interest in Raymond. The outlook on the field is not as bright as we could wish. Our counsel and fellowship are needed by the brave and devoted men and women who labor there. We had a delightful prayer meeting last Thursday evening. Though the rain was pouring he had quite a little company of faithful ones and the testimonies given were inspiring.

The teachers' meeting at the home church on Friday evenings, led by Mr. Kennan, is one of the strong features of our church life. It is a gathering that no wide-awake teacher of our Sunday school will miss, if it be possible to attend. The number present week by week is most encouraging. A short discussion of some live topic introduces the session and then the lesson for the ensuing session is taught by the leader. And he knows how to teach. It has been suggested that the officers of the church drop in and see what is being done. They will be welcome if they come.

I am gratified and grateful because of the enthusiasm and great interest which you, and your friends and neighbors, have shown, in the series of lecture-sermons on my recent world-tour. The congregations have been large (much larger, you tell me, than they have been since the World's Fair, fifteen years ago), and the attention given to the words of the speaker has been profound. That your attention has not been idle or superficial has been abundantly proved to me by questions that have been asked concerning many things mentioned or suggested in my lectures. It has been a real inspiration to me to talk to you about these matters, and to recount some of the numberless impressions made and convictions formed, in the course of my journey. I am particularly indebted to Mr. H. H. Solt for his great kindness in operating the stereopticon. His attention and skill went far to make the lectures successful.

We hope to have another great church social this year. The date will probably be the second of June. Reserve the evening in your note books and in your memories. Let us combine to make it the best yet. After the btginning of June people will be scattering in all directions, so that will be our last big chance together till next autumn.

Mr. Havens, the quartet, and the Choral Club, have been making thorough preparations for the special musical service on the evening of Sunday, May 17. Every seat in the church should be taken. The program promises great things. Selections from the oratorio of the Messiah and the Creation will be given, under Mr. Haven's distinguished direction. I hope that next autumn and winter we may be able to have these musical evenings, so full of spiritual uplift and blessing, as often as once a month.

In a few days the eyes af all good Baptists will be turned toward Oklahoma City, where the Northern Baptist Convention begins its sessions on May 20. For many, many years, from the days of their founding, the three national missionary organizations of our denomination have been separate and distinct from each other and other different boards of control. These boards had practically absolute power. Now they are all to be under the direction of, and responsible to, a delegated body, the Northern Baptist Convention. The body represents directly the churches and district associations and state conventions of the North. The creation of this new body is a striking and almost startling departure from the policy of the Baptists of our country, but It is certainly a move in the direction of closer organization, and should result in a more intimate denominational fellowship. I wish that there might be a delegation of five or six at least of our members to this important meeting.

Faithfully your pastor,

AUSTEN K. DE BLOIS.

UERSONALS AND NOTES.

John H. Wrenn is at present visiting in Europe.

Mr. C. H. Marshall and family have moved to 4422 Lake avenue.

Mr. Pienkowsky and family have moved to 4465 Lake avenue.

Mrs. McLaury has returned from a trip to Cuba and the southern states.

Mrs. A. Charlesworth has been ill for several weeks, but is able to be at church again.

Mrs. Ira Beulah Buck is in Chicago again, after several months' absence in Oklahoma and elsewhere.

Mrs. William Pickett went to England in May, to visit her daughter, Mrs. Dr. Tucker, now residing in London.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Ahrens recently took quite an extended tour through the Southland, visiting some of the great battlefields.

Mrs. H. N. Smith has returned from Dayton, O., where she spent the winter with her daughter, Mrs. Franklin W. Sweft.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Clark have moved to Normal Park but will retain their membership and fellowship with the First Church.

Mrs. Chamberlain, of Buffalo, N. Y., is staying with her sister, Miss Blanche Pickett, during the absence of their mother in Europe.

Lincoln Post, No. 91, G. A. R., and Woman's Relief Corps, will worship with us May 24. Memorial sermon by Rev. R. R. Kennan.

Mr. E. L. Roy has been quite seriously ill for some weeks. He has partially recovered and is now on a vacation seeking renewed health.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Williams have been making a lengthy trip to the east, visiting Williams College, where their son Temple is a sophomore.

T. E. Donnelley has recently been ill and obliged to undergo an operation at the hospital. We are glad to report that he is now much better.

Deacon Goodman has been ill during the last month. We hope to see him back in the church with the coming of warm and settled weather.

Mrs. R. R. Donnelly and Miss Naomi Donnelly are at Yokohomo. They will spend several weeks in Japan and return to Chicago the first of August.

Dr. de Blois, Dr. Ketman and Deacon Neal will represent the church at the Oklahoma anniversaries. It is hoped that other representatives will be able to go also.

Mr. and Mrs. Barnes of Ioliet have been visiting Mr. Barnes' mother, Mrs. J. P. Barnes. They are active workers in one of the Baptist churches of their home city.

Mr. Pollard, whose wife was formerly a member of our church, died very suddenly, a few days ago. He resided at 3147 Groveland and frequently attended our services.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilber Henson have recently removed to Chicago from Boston. They, and Mrs. Henson's mother, Mrs. E. P. Broughton, will live together in the vicinity of the church.

Mrs. R. F. Bennett is now connected with the editorial staff of the popular Chicago weekly magazine, *The Saturday Evening Herald*. Her gifts admirably fit her to serve in this important position.

Rev. W. M. Embee of Marengo, Ill., formerly assistant pastor at Raymond, will be sent as a delegate to the Northern Baptist Convention at Oklahoma City, the church paying all the expenses of his trip.

Nicoll G. Halsey has spent a few weeks in Chicago, leaving again a few days ago for his usual lengthy tour through the west. It is always good to greet him and hear his words of encouragement and cheer in the prayer meetings.

Dr. M. D. Eubank of Huchow, China, spoke at Raymond Chapel Sunday School last Sunday afternoon and preached in the evening. He has many friends in Raymond field who remember his successful leadership of their work in former years.

The Sunday evening services have been very interesting, and large audiences have been present. Next Sunday, May 17, a musical program will be given by the choir and Choral Club. Selections will be rendered from "Creation," the "Messiah" and Rubinstein's cantata, "Tower of Babel."

Mrs. Nancy Tolman celegrated on the first of May her 84th birthday. She was present at Benevolent Society where congratulations were showered upon her by her host of loving friends. In the evening a dinner in her honor was given at the home of her brother-in-law, Rev. Dr. C. F. Tolman.

The resignation of Mr. Gibbs from the assistant pastorate, in charge of Raymond mission, leaves the work there in direct charge of Dr. de Blois and the mission committee. The Sunday and Thursday evening service will be kept up as usual, and every effort will be made to make the work of the mission a success.

April 11 Mrs. Gould, of 42 Groveland Park, entertained at luncheon Mrs. Pickett, Mrs. Tolman, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Paxton and Mrs. Little. The following week Mrs. Gould left for Auburn, N. Y., and Montreal to visit her sisters. The last of June she will go to her summer home on Crooked Lake, near Kalamazoo, Mich., to remain until October.

Mr. Burton Coppess, an engineer on the Santa Fe railway, long a member of our church, was killed by the overturning of his locomotive recently. He was a man of fine character, deeply respected by all who knew him, a model husband and father. Dr. de Blois attended the funeral. The afflicted family have the sincere symtpathy of our entire church in their time of sorrow.

QUERY.

If greatness be goodness and goodness be great,
If goodness be greatness and greatness be good,
Does one who seeks either both early and late,
Find both when one finds either one that one would?
Are greatness and goodness by whatever name
One calls them, then, proved to be one and the same?

TWISS.

AN APRIL WEDDING.

The marriage of Miss Ethel Hoops, daughter of Mrs. C. H. Hoops of 4136 Drexel boulevard to Mr. Arthur Barrett took place at the First Baptist Church, on the evening of Thursday, April 30. The ceremony was performed by Dr. de Blois in the presence of a large number of invited guests. The decorations were beautiful. Following the service at the church a reception was held at the residence of the father and mother of the groom, 3244 Calumet avenue. The bride is one of the most popular of the younger members of our church.

MUSIC IN THE CHURCHES.

First Baptist.

The handsome old First Baptist church on Thirty-first street never looked more inviting than on last Sunday, when the pulpit was turned into a veritable garden of Easter loveliness, and a great throng of people were attracted to the special morning service, in which there was an abundance of music of the finest kind.

C. A. Havens has organized a chorus choir in this church, and on Sunday evenings they may be heard in thoroughly good programs. Last Sunday, however, these singers were also pressed into service in the morning, and not only were two special selections of great worth given, but also the entire cantata, "The Risen King," by Schnecker.

The chorus is composed of about thirty-six voices, and these have evidently been selected with much care and trained vigorously, for the volume of tone is large and musical, the phrasing is done with an admirable unanimity, and the shading is managed with considerably more than the usual amateur effect.

Mr. Havens played throughout the service with that utter freedom and remarkable artistry which long ago placed his work far above that of most organists, and which he maintains unfalteringly. His special numbers were a "Cantilene Melodie," by Guilmant and Widor's "Cantabile" from the Symphony No. 4, and both these were played with much charm and corresponding effect.

The two special vocal numbers heard were "As it Began to Dawn," by G. C. Martin, and the glorious "Inflamatus" from Rossini's "Stabat Mater." The first of these is a most remarkable anthem, being strongly dramatic in its development, and having a great deal of variety and contrast in its various parts. The introductory part is a "program" prelude, depicting the Dawn, and this was done exquisitely by Mr. Havens, following which Dr. Wm. Carver Williams delivered the descriptive recitatives which unfold the story of The Resurrection, in a way which was full to repletion with vocal charm, and which furthermore were so sincere in utterance and so unaffected in style as to carry the scene irresistibly and surely. The episode depicting the earthquake and the rolling away of the stone from the mouth of the sepulchre have been admirably handled by the composer, and in this presentation the chorus and organ were alike indicative and successful in carrying out the idea; this was followed by the Angel's song, very beautifully done by Miss Marabel Tucker, and for which the writer of the anthem had provided an obligato for the organ *a la Celestial Harps,* which was a charming conceit, faithfully carried out. The close of the work consists of the singing of one of the standard Easter hymns by the chorus, and in this instance it was done in a straightforward and simple style wholly in keeping and wonderfully effective.

The "Inflamatus" is so superb a number musically, and its spiritual uplift is so strong that it is to be wondered at that it is not oftener given on festal occasions in the church and especially on Easter, for it seemed particularly appropriate to the day. On this occasion it was given with great effect by all concerned; the chorus was alert and exact; the quartet was strong and artistic, and Miss Tucker gave the obligato much better than anything in which she has heretofore been heard.

Mrs. Glen Wood is the alto, and J. H. Litkowski is the tenor, and though they had no especial prominence in either of these works, they yet were admirable in ensemble, and easily helped to make the work of the quartet notable.—*Charles E. Watt in "The Musical Leader and Concert Goer" for April 23.*

GONE HOME.

Class 19 of the Sunday school has been called upon to mourn the loss of one of its members, Marie Kneiling, aged 12 years, whom the Father called to the home above April 8, 1908.

Marie had been away from the class for some time, owing to the absence of her mother from the city, and was temporarily in a private school, but she had signified her intention of returning to the class.

She had been a regular attendant, having won a medal, and always had a well prepared lesson, as the class records show.

The Sunday prior to her absence she confided in her teacher that she had accepted Christ as her Savior, and expected to join the church on her return, but God saw best to take her to the church triumphant.

She was of a sweet, loving disposition, and will be sadly missed by all the class.

GIRLS' FIDELITY.

BY FLORETTE SOLTOW.

The April meeting of the Girls' Fidelity was held at the home of Dr. Montezuma Tuesday evening, April 7. In spite of the fact that it was raining "pitchforks" we had a very large meeting. At about 7 o'clock supper was served and then Dr. Montezuma entertained us by telling us various thrilling incidents connected with his boyhood. After spending a most enjoyable evening, the meeting adjourned about 9:30 o'clock.

THE CHURCH AT WORK

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES.

The attendance of our Sunday school is still good, but we have plenty of chairs for more, and in this connection, will not the members of the church invite the children of their new neighbors? Tell the children to inquire for the Superintendent, who will see that they are properly cared for.

The teachers' meetings held each Friday evening, are fairly well attended, but it should be understood that these meetings are open to all members of the church and congregation. The discussions have been very entertaining and instructive, and great praise is due to Rev. Kennan for the instruction he has given. If you have not attended, you should do so. Your presence would be a great encouragement.

On Easter Sunday both departments of the school met in the prayer meeting room, and stereopticon views of the Life of our Savior were shown and explained by Rev. Kennan, and were greatly enjoyed by all present.

The committee appointed to arrange program for Children's Day (June 14) are at work, and it is believed that a better program than has ever been had in our school will be given. The annual school picnic will be held June 13. The committee in charge are working hard to make it a great success. The Immanuel, Hyde Park, and Raymond Mission schools will be with us. What a host of young people! Plan to go along. The cost will not be much, and you will enjoy a great day. Various amusements are being planned.

It has been a great joy to the officers of the school to see, during the present year, a number of the scholars coming out in the faith and joining the church. This is what the school is for, and it is a great regret that we do not see a larger attendance of the members of the church. Will not the brethren and sisters come once in a while? It is their school, and surely they ought to encourage the officers and teachers by attending a session some Sunday morning.

The Juniors, in what was formerly known as the graduating class, are making considerable progress, but they will not be promoted to the intermediate department till fall.

The teachers' social, held some few weeks ago, was a great success, and the words spoken by Mr. Knapp were very instructive. Are there not among the members of our church a few who could teach a class of boys or girls? If so, will you kindly speak to the Superintendent? Teachers are always needed, and it is actually necessary that some should volunteer for this work.

The finances of our school are in a fair shape. This year, instead of taking an annual collection, the amount necessary for the proper running of the school has been placed in the budget of the church. The amount asked is very small, considerinng the work. It is only $400, and it is trusted that the members of the church and congregation will bear this in mind when making their subscription in response to the call of our trustees. You have always given; do so now in your usual generous way, so that the school shall not suffer.

Brethren and sisters, pray for our school, and that the work of the officers you have elected may be blessed.

And do not forget to attend the school and encourage the workers.

Since January 1 the school has been called on to mourn two of the scholars, young girls who have been called home to be with their Savior, and of this there is no doubt. One of these young girls was stricken the day she was to come before the deacons for membership with us. We thank God their lives, though young, were not lost, but their influence was a blessing to other scholars.

THE LORIMER CLASS.

By Ernest Hartung.

Though our class did not have anything in the Church Life for the last three months, we have not gone back in the work we undertook, especially in athletics. We entered a track team in the Bible class meet. Although the boys did not win any individual event, we surprised everybody by getting second place in the relay race, just five feet behind the winners.

Base ball will not be undertaken this year, as we cannot find anyone to manage that department. We have, however, entered a team in the tennis league of the Bible Class Athletic Association, and expect to show up well.

From the arrangements made by the Sunday School Committee on picnic day, much rivalry is expected in the triangular track meet between Hyde Park Baptist, Immanuel Baptist, and our church. Watch for further details.

TEACHER TRAINING.

Our attention for some time past has been called to the very great importance of teacher training in our Sunday schools.

The fact that in Christian America the Bible has been debarred from the public schools, and also that the Bible is ignored in some, and very little used in many of our homes, renders it vitally essential that every effort should be put forth by the Christian church to give the truths of God's word intelligently to the pupils of our Sunday schools.

I have become convinced by long observation that one great cause of the dearth of good teachers in our Sunday schools is due to a consciousness on the part of many of our young Christians that they are not sufficiently familiar with the Bible to attempt to teach it to the children.

Owing possibly to the multiplicity of societies and various organizations in the church, the present generation have not applied themselves to Bible study as they should, and consequently do not feel competent to the work of teaching. It therefore becomes very necessary that every effort should be put forth to fit the young among our membership for the important duties which must devolve upon them as they advance in life, and as the burdens of the